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Dear Josh,

You asked if I was familiar with the "Study of Sci-Tech Data Activities in the United States" report done by Science Communications, Inc. in 1968. That company is the same one that did the study of Genetics Citation Index. I know D. Myatt very well. I don't know if he is still in business.

I would appreciate your jotting down here why you felt I should know about the report. I have gone over its lengthy contents page in three parts.

One practical thing that could come out of it -- does anyone publish a continuing directory of data activities? I do believe something like this is implied by the reportage of certain publications in our field but I will review this point with Mel Weinstock.

I wondered if you thought we might identify a market or need for an on-going data activity of some kind. We have more or less avoided any specialized activities of this kind but would be very interested in anything that is a reasonable extension of CAC/IC or ICRS. With everything that is happening in molecular biology, I have wondered how important our former coverage of polypeptides is now.

Generally, my thoughts have been on general projects like the science newspaper. I've been trying to reach you for several days in that connection. Just exactly what is it that we can do with a new service that is not available through present outlets like Science, Nature, New Scientist, New York Times, etc. In short, what is science "news"? How much need is there for a "Journal of Scientific Controversy" or "Journal of Scientific Opinion"?

Could we begin this by opening up CC to a news section as an extension of the ISI Press Digest? Incidentally, it goes to eight pages in CC/LS, etc. in 1975.

We could buy out that British IRCS as a depository system and list titles in CC. They recognize the difference CC could make in its success or failure and would like the association.

Marty Kaplan was here and suggested I talk to you about some meeting you are having on November 15. The way he talked about it sounded as though you were going into the IR business -- something called SUMEX?

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We are now winding up our planning process for 1975, and as soon as it is finalized, we are going to go into the long-range planning so it would help to know your travel schedule. Can you send me one for the next few months?

Sincerely yours,

Eugene Garfield  
President

EG/sm

cc: M. Weinstock